



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/780,619	02/19/2004	Michael Peters	003-118	3163
36844	7590	06/23/2005	EXAMINER	
CERMAK & KENEALY LLP 515 E. BRADDOCK RD ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			KHUU, HIEN DIEU THI	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2863	

DATE MAILED: 06/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/780,619

Applicant(s)

PETERS, MICHAEL

Examiner

Cindy D. Khuu

Art Unit

2863

RM

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/19/2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/14/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Specification Objections*

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it exceeds 150 words in length and contains a legal phraseology term "comprising" (**Line 2**). Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

### *Claim Objections*

Claim 10 is objected to because of the following informality: The word "periodicially" (**Line 3**) should be -- periodically --. Correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 11, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lichter et al. (6,159,147).

With respect to claim 1, Lichter discloses a measurement unit for collecting and forwarding measured data (**Column 11: Lines 12-14**), the unit comprising: at least one measuring point for determining the measured data (**Column 11: Line 23-24**); at least one interface (**Figure 2: ID 43**) for at least indirectly transferring the measured data (**Figure 2: bus ID 61**) to a control center (**Figure 2: ID 27; Column 10: Lines 38-40**); a process unit (**Figure 2: ID 61**) and means for local storage (**Figure 2: ID 63**), processing, or both of measured data in the measurement unit (**Column 9: Lines 49-52**); means for transferring the measured data from the measuring point to the process unit (**Column 11: Lines 12-14**), the means for transferring optionally comprising means for converting the measured data, into digital signals including an analog-to-digital converter (**Figure 2: ID 36**) when said measured data are made available by the measuring point in analog form (**Column 8: Lines 28-38**); and wherein the process unit includes means for subsequently writing the measured data into a database of the control center (**Figure 2: ID 61, 72, and 63**).

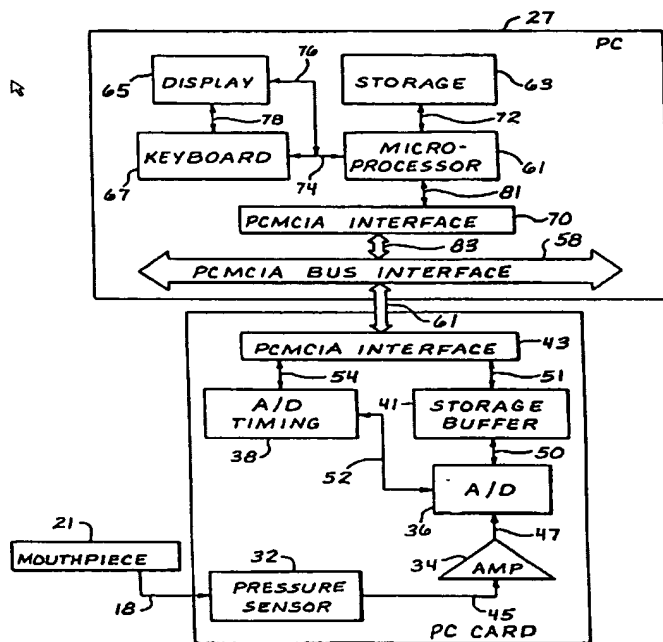


Figure 2

With respect to claim 2, Lichter discloses a measurement unit, further comprising: means in the process unit for at least partially processing the measured data before being transferred to the control center (Column 14: Lines 62-67; Column 15: Line 1).

With respect to claim 4, Lichter discloses a measurement unit, further comprising: means for controlling by filing the control commands in the control center (Column 8: Lines 42-45).

With respect to claim 5, Lichter discloses a measurement unit; wherein the control center further comprises means for providing parameters assigned to the control commands, files, or both, said parameters being provided in a database; and the process unit further comprises means for periodically reading out said parameters together with the control commands, and for controlling the measurement unit based on said control commands and associated parameters (Column 9: Lines 17-34).

Art Unit: 2863

With respect to claim 6, Lichter discloses a measurement unit; wherein the process unit further comprises: means for acknowledging a corresponding action to the control center, a database, or both, after control commands, parameters, or both, are read out of the control center, out of the databases, or both (**Column 9: Lines 22-27**).

With respect to claim 8, Lichter discloses a measurement unit; wherein the control center comprises a data server (**Figure 2: ID 27**), a database (**Figure 2: ID 63**), or both; and further comprising: a network interface (**Column 16: Line 34**), communication interface (**Column 15: Lines 68-60**), or both.

With respect to claim 11, Lichter discloses a measurement unit; wherein the means for at least partially processing the measured data comprise means for filtering (**Column 13: Line 2**).

With respect to claim 14, Lichter discloses a measurement unit; wherein the network interface comprises a local wired or wireless network (**Column 16: Lines 33-34**).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 7 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lichter et al. (6,712,762) in view of Amrutur et al. (US 2004/0196840).

With respect to claims 3, 7 and 12, Lichter teaches everything claimed, as applied above, with the exception a measurement unit, wherein the process unit further comprises: means for reading from, writing to, or both, at least one of the databases not directly relevant to the measured data, at least 1 to 20 times per minute and means for transferring in periodic packets transfers at a rate of at least 1 to 20 times per

Art Unit: 2863

minute. However, to do so is well known as taught by Amrutur. Amrutur teaches a measurement unit, wherein the process unit further comprises: means for reading from, writing to, or both, at least one of the databases not directly relevant to the measured data, at least 1 to 20 times per minute and means for transferring in periodic packets transfers at a rate of at least 1 to 20 times per minute (**Page 3: Paragraph 0045**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement a periodic packet transfer at a rate of at least 1 to 20 times per minute as disclosed by Amrutur for the purpose of optimizing the data processing and how measured data is efficiently being transferred across a network.

Claims 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lichter et al. (6,712,762) in view of Kim et al. (5,642,038).

With respect to claims 9 and 15, Lichter teaches everything claimed, as applied above, with the exception a measurement unit; wherein said measurement unit is configured and arranged for measuring and collecting partial-discharge data at a generator system and at a high-voltage terminal. However, to do so is well known as taught by Kim. Kim teaches a measurement unit; wherein said measurement unit (**Column 4: Line 28**) is configured and arranged for measuring and collecting partial-discharge data at a generator system (**Column 5: Lines 17-30**) and at a high-voltage terminal (**Column 1: Lines 34-36**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to configure the measurement unit to measure and collect partial discharge data at a generator system and at a high-voltage terminal as disclosed by Kim for the purpose of detecting partial discharge activity and to provide better information for analysis and diagnosis of insulation problems and to avoid impact of unscheduled outages in a high powered system due to insulation failures (**Column 1: Lines 24-28**).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 10 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious, which makes the following claims allowable over the prior art:

With respect to claim 10, a method for collecting and forwarding measured data by using a measurement unit as claimed in claim 1, the method comprising: independently periodically filing measured data by the measurement unit in the control center, in a database, in a file in the control center, or combinations thereof; periodically and independently retrieving control commands by the measurement unit and, optionally associated parameters from the control center, from databases, from files in the control center, or combinations thereof; periodically filing the status of the measurement unit in the control center, in a database, in files, or combinations thereof. **Underlining indicates emphasis.**

With respect to claim 13, a measurement unit; wherein the means for controlling by filing the control commands comprises: means in the control center for filing the control commands in a database; and means in the process unit for independently periodically reading out said control commands from the control center, from a database, or both, and controlling the measurement unit based on said control commands. **Underlining indicates emphasis.**

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."



Art Unit: 2863

**Conclusion**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kaneda et al. (US 2005/0012507), Novak (5,448,505), Petroff (4,933,833), Shofner et al. (US 2002/0029151).

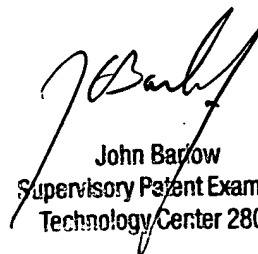
**Fax/Telephone Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cindy D. Khuu whose telephone number is (571) 272-8585. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 6/16/05

  
John Barlow  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800